

32. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage is positioned downstream from the first cyclonic cleaning stage.

33. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage comprises a plurality of cyclones in parallel.

34. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 33 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage comprises a single cyclone.

35. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber, the second cyclonic cleaning stage has a second dirt collection chamber and the first and second dirt collection chambers are parallel to each other.

36. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber having a bottom, the second cyclonic cleaning stage has a second dirt collection chamber having a bottom and the bottom of the first and second dirt collection chambers lie in a common plane.

37. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 34 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber, the second cyclonic cleaning stage has a second dirt collection chamber and the first and second dirt collection chambers are parallel to each other.

38. The upright vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 34 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber having a bottom, the second cyclonic cleaning stage has a second dirt collection chamber having a bottom and the bottom of the first and second dirt collection chambers lie in a common plane.

39. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 31 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage is positioned above the first cyclonic cleaning stage.

40. A vacuum cleaner comprising:

(a) a cleaning head for cleaning a surface;

(b) an upper body portion mounted on the cleaning head, the upper portion having a cyclonic cleaning unit comprising at least first and second cyclonic cleaning stages, the second cyclonic cleaning stage positioned in series with the first cyclonic cleaning stage and the cyclonic unit is removable from the vacuum cleaner; and,

(c) the first cyclonic cleaning stage has a first dirt collection chamber having a bottom, the second cyclonic cleaning stage comprises a plurality of cyclones and has a single second dirt collection chamber having a bottom and the bottom of the first and second dirt collection chambers lie in a common plane.

41. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 40 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage is positioned downstream from the first cyclonic cleaning stage.

42. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 40 wherein the second cyclonic cleaning stage is positioned above the first cyclonic cleaning stage whereby dirt separated by the cyclonic cleaning stages falls due gravity into each of the dirt collection chambers.

*32* 43. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 42 wherein the first cyclonic cleaning stage comprises a single cyclone.

44. The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 40 wherein the first and second dirt collection chambers are parallel to each other.

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